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Federal Communication Commission  
455 12<sup>th</sup> St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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This is my notification to the FCC of my disagreement with the proposed elimination of the Morse code test for obtaining an Amateur Radio License.

At present I have held the call K6KSG for the past 45 years. It was an uphill battle for me to get past the 5 words per minute code test to obtain my General Amateur License at 13 words per minute.

In 1958 I joined the U.S. Navy and was a Radioman aboard an aircraft carrier. After the Navy, I worked under contract for the U.S. Government and was one of the Radio Officers aboard the Hughes Glomar Explorer, the ship that picked up the Soviet submarine in the early 1970's.

Later in the mid 1970's I sailed in the U.S. Merchant Marine as Radio Electronics Officer for 20 years and retired.

So as you can see the code was a very important part of my life. I hear rumblings on the ham bands that it is old fashioned and antiquated mode of operation. Also I hear a lot of Citizen Band type of jargon on the SSB, and VHF portions of the ham bands.

My feeling is this; keep the 5 words per minute for Technician License, 13 words per minute for General License, and 20 words per minute for Extra Class License. If people want the added spectrum and privileges, then let them work and obtain a meaningful license that will give them a sense of accomplishment. Getting something for nothing means nothing as far as accomplishment.

Knowing the code is also beneficial. If a person wants to build a class 'C' telegraph transmitter/receiver, it is a stepping-stone to more complicated circuitry. The Novice portion of the bands taught proficiency and good operating procedures. At present, the licensing structure has been dumbed down enough, so please at least keep the code requirement for Amateur Radio License.

Thank you, and 73  
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